He Leaves It as He Found It.

It would be a neglect of justice to Mr. CLEVELAND as well as a failure to point out to the Democracy a most welcome cause for estisfaction if attention were not called to the radical difference in the two policies embodied respectively in the Presidential messages of 1887 and of 1888.

The prime cause of the recent Democratic disaster lay in the first of these importan documents, and it was this:

"Our scheme of taxation consists of a tariff or duties levied upon importations from abread and internal reve-sus taxes levied upon the consumption of tebacco and us and malt liquors. It must be conceded that these things subject to internal revenue taxation are, strictly speaking, necessaries. There appears be no complaint of this taxation for the consu of those articles, and there seems to be nothing so we

of the people.

"Our present tariff laws, victors, inequitable, ar fillogical source of unnecessary taxation, ought to be a nce revised and amenued."

This was not only a complete upset of an unbroken Democratic policy from the time the party was founded, but it was a blow between the eyes of every protectionist Demcerat. Upon a scheme retaining the internal revenue all tariff reduction leads straight, and quickly too, to free trade It was this which paralyzed the real spirit of Democracy, and through this the sole sentiment left in the canvass with any genuine animation in it and able to act without protest or reservation was that of the free traders. There never was a more mag nificent exhibition of party loyalty than the manner in which the bulk of the protection Democrats kept their place in the ranks for the sake solely of the party name.

In the second message, however, that now laid before the public, this peculiarly vicious feature is altogether absent. The Jeffer sonian doctrine, so plainly expressed in the platform of 1884, is not again de There is no talk about retaining the internal revenue. Of course the President took another shot at the tariff as any Democrat might have done, but it appeared merely in the form of mild advice that there should be "no cessation of the struggle until a policy is perfected fair and conservative toward existing industries which will reduce the cost of the necessaries of life and provide our manufacturers with freer raw materials."

The plan proposed in 1887, and a clear cut and definite policy it was, leading inexorably to the tariff's ultimate abolition, is dropped in favor of a reasonable agreement with the document which was supposed in 1884 to form the basis of Mr. CLEVELAND's future solloy as President.

This is an instance of self-denial on Mr. fleveland's part for which he unquestionbly deserves acknowledgment. The thorn which he thrust into the Democratic side in 1887 has been withdrawn, and with this act he practically wipes out the platform built for the recent canvass to suit his own sudden fancies and leaves intact the declarations of 1884 which were made to suit the Democratic party.

Upon that platform all Democrats can stand. Upon that the entire party could discuss, contend, and reject or accept all variations in the way of tariff revision without threat or danger to the unity or to the sential ideas and traditions of Democracy.

### "The Whim of a Subordinate."

The New York Times reports Secretary PATRCHILD as defending with some show of feeling and with some disingenuousness of statement his departure from the practice of Mr. MANNING and Mr. McCulloch, who properly included the sinking fund item among the ordinary expenditures of the Covernment.

Mr. FAIRCRILD omits to say that he himself did precisely the same thing last year. In the annual Treasury report for 1887, Mr. FAIRCHILD reckoned the sinking fund item as "ordinary expenditure," both in his table of receipts and expenditures for that fiscal year and in his estimates for the fiscal y 1988 and for the fiscal year 1889. Indeed, by an apparent oversight, he continues the practice even this year in a solitary instance, namely, in the table of estimates for 1890. But elsewhere in this year's report swell the apparent size of the surplus.

What the Secretary of the Treasury should explain, therefore, is not merely why he has suddenly departed from the practice of Secretary McCulloun and Secretary Manning, but also why he has suddenly abandoned a form of statement which commended itself as the proper form of statement to Mr. Secretary FAIRCHILD himself only twelve months ago. What instruction in the art of surplus reckoning has Mr. FAIRCHILD received since he wrote his annual report of last December? What new reason has he since that time for desiring to present to the eye of the casual reader of his reports a surplus as big as it can possibly be made by twisting the figures?

It is no enswer to reply, as Mr. FAIRCHILD does through the New York Times, that these questions are put to him by a journal which he is pleased to designate as "s leading protectionist newspaper." Protection and free trade have nothing to do with the matter. We quote that part of Mr. FAIR-CHILD's defence in the New York Times which bears at all upon the question of the Secretary's motives:

"The principal cause of complaint against the Secre-tary in the mind of this protectionistic that he has de-parted from the practice of Secretaries McCuttoon and Maximum in not characterizing the staking fund as an 'ordinary expenditure.' Whether it is or is not an 'or-dinary expenditure,' it comes out of the surples revolue. Secretary SHEREAN, in his reports for 1800 and 1801, and Secretary FOLDER, in 1802 and 1803, did not regard the application of surplus for the sinking fund as an 'or-dinary expenditure.' It was not until Peerstary McCur-toom was induced, through the whim of a subordinate, to treat the sinking fund prevision as an 'ordinary ar-penditure' that it was so scheduled. Mr. Falsonian re-turned to the practice of Folder, Sakkeran, and their tradference."

This paragraph is as full of misstatement

and absurdities as an egg is full of meat. In departing from the practice of Secretary McCulloce and Secretary Manning-and likewise from his own previous practice-Mr. FAIRCHILD has not "returned to the practice of Folgen and Sherman." Mr. SHERMAN made no "report for 1881," for he had then ceased to be Secretary of the Treasury. In his last annual report, that for 1880, Mr. SHERMAN was unable to include the sinking fund expenditure under the head of "ordinary expenditures" for the simple reason that during his administra tion the provisions of the Sinking Fund act had not been strictly observed. The application of revenue to that purpose had been irregular and unequal from year to year and Mr. Sherman was obliged to explain the matter in a separate table. But in the estimates for the fiscal year 1882 Mr. Sher-MAN puts sinking fund together with interest on the public debt under the head of rmanent annual appropriations," and the sinking fund provision is expressly ex-cluded from his estimated surplus.

As für Secretary Foxuse, his form of state-

mates for the fiscal year 1888, in his report for 1882:

Leaving a balance of ...... What Mr. FAIRCHILD does is very differant, as will be obvious at a glance: 

Retirented amount due the staking fund..... 44.622,656

875,677,04

Estimated surplus, applicable to the pur-

Mr. FAIRCHILD thus lumps together the evenue that must be applied to the purchase of bonds with the revenue that may, at the Secretary's discretion, be so applied, and calls the whole sum surplus. And thus he deliberately and intentionally ignores the distinction which Mr. FOLGER clearly pointed out in that same report for 1882, when he said:

"There seems to have been confusion in some mi of the sums paid to meet the lateral needs of the sinking fund, and those paid for the reduction of public debt by direct payment and redemption thereof."

The confusion that Secretary FOLGER sought to remove, Secretary FAIRCHILD eeks to create.

The truth is that up to the time of Mc-CULLOCH the status of the sinking fund item in the Treasury bookkeeping had never been accurately fixed or scientifically expressed. This was because, first, the requirements of the Sinking Fund act were loosely interpreted, and the payments on that secount fluctuating and irregular; and, secondly, the surplus had not become a factor. of political importance, and the exact method of computing the surplus was comparatively immaterial. But since Folorn, including the reports of McCulloch and Manning, and FAIRCHILD's own report of last year, the sinking fund provision has been properly included where it belongs, among the permanent annual appropriations, just as much one of the ordinary expenditures of the Government as the interest on the public debt.

This honest way of stating the exact financial condition is suddenly abandoned by Mr. FAIRCHILD, in order that the figures of the surplus that go out to the country may be \$104,000,000, Instead of about \$57,000,000, to be still further reduced by other factors. And Mr. FAIRCRILD has the audacity to plead as an excuse for his sudden change the assertion that the proper method of scheduling the sinking fund item-the method pursued by Mr. McCullocu, Mr. Manning, and by himself up to date—was adopted by Mr. Mc-CULLOCH merely on the "whim of a subor

dinate"! How long is it since the present Secretary of the Treasury has studied sections 3,689 and 3.695 of the Revised Statutes?

"Szerios 3,680. There are appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purposes hereinafter specified, such sums as may be ses bereinafter specified, such sums as may be for the same respectively; and such appro-

"Interest on the Public Debt-For payment of interes on the public debt, under the several acts authorizing

"Sinking Fund.—Of one per centum of the entire debt of the United States, to be set apart as a sinking fund for the purchase or payment of the public debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury shall from time SECTION 3,694. The coin pand for duties en imported

roods shall be set apart as a special fund, and shall be applied as follows:

rypices as follows:

"First, to the payment in coin of the interest on the sends and notes of the United States.

"Second, to the purchase or payment of one per centum of the entire debt of the United States, to be mad which case fiscal year, which is to be set apart as a sink-ing fund, and the interest of which shall in like manner be applied to the purchase or payment of the public be applied to the purchase or payment of the public debt as the Secretary of the Treasury shall from time

to time direct." The sinking fund provision, therefore, is an ordinary expenditure of the Government, in the same sense and to the same degree as the interest on the public debt. There is no excuse, in law or in reason, for classing the interest on the public debt as "ordinary expenditure" and refusing to do the same thing with the sinking fund provision. The Government is equally pledged to both, and a strict observance of both requirements is equally necessary to the preservation of the Government's credit. Moreover, the sinking fund provision is a lien not on the genone of the Government specifically on the customs revenue. It is a second lien on the tariff revenue, coming only after the interest on the public debt. When Mr. FAIRCHILD declares that the first clear recognition of this fact by Secretary McCulloch was merely the "whim'of a subordinate," he is talking nonsense. When he regards his own function in the matter as anything beyond that of an executive subordinate charged with the duty of obeying the act of Congress, he manifests undue exaltation. And when he tells the people that the surplus will be \$104,000,000, "applicable to the purchase of bonds," when in fact \$46,500,000 or thereabouts is not surplus and has already been applied by law, he simply indulges in misrepresentation discreditable to the office which he reached by accident, and which he

## The French Income Tax.

The income tax proposed by M. PEYTRAL seems, after all, more likely than the revision project to wreck the FLOQUET Cabinet. The Premier managed to gain some breathing time before grappling with the thorny problem of constitutional reform by allowing the Revision Committee to advise the most radical changes, while at the same time postponing their report to the Greek Kalends. The question of ways and means, on the other hand, is too pressing to be shelved in that fashion, and, now that the Finance Committee have pronounced against the income tax, it remains to be seen whether the Chamber of Deputies will pass it over their heads. This tax on incomes has been advocated

by the Ministry on the ground that it is the sole expedient to which they can look for extrication from financial straits that grow with every year more desperate. An annual deficit has for some time been substituted for the excess of revenue over outgo, to which GAMBETTA could once point as the guarantee of republican thrift. As things now are, the product of taxation falls short of the unavoidable or ordinary expenses of Government. Yet this is the time chosen by M. DE FREYCINET, the present Minister of War, for demanding an enormous extra grant to be used in reconstructing fortifications on the northeast frontier, a work which, according to his calculations, cannot even be begun with less than one hundred million dollars in hand. As for paring down disbursements in other directions, the Ministry declare that to be impracticable. For example, Radicals as they are, they shrink from reducing the number of Bishops or the stipends of the clergy, for the obviously sound reason that so long as the Concordat

exists it ought to be respected. So Premier Floquer stands committed to the assertion that an income tax is indispensable, and if the Chamber follows the example of the committee in refusing to sanction it, he will have to resign. That the Deputies on the eve of a general election Deputies on the eve of the clamorous pro-will venture to disregard the clamorous pro-

ment was as follows, taken from his esti- | Since the salt fax of the ancien régime, no fiecal expedient has so exasperated the French people as this proposal to tax incomes It must be remembered that in France the national Government already taxes real estate, and all categories of personal property which in this country may be made the subjects of chattel mortgages. It elso taxes stocks and bonds; in short, every tangible inanimate thing which is capable of yielding an income. The only thing left to tax is the income-earning power of brains and muscle, whether this takes the form of wages or salary, or of a percentage of the returns of a business. In the United States we know by experience that an official inquisition into earnings of this kind is an extremely odious process, and under the conditions proposed in France it would be peculiarly arbitrary and aggravating. For under the bill laid before the Chamber the determination of incomes which by their nature are often fluctuating and precarious, is to be left to local committees to be appointed by the Finance Minister for the time being. We need not point out what a formidable engine of political discrimination and oppression such committees would constitute in the hands of a reckless partisan.

In the judgment of those who know France best and who are at the same time familiar with the mischievous workings of an income tax, the enactment of the PEYTRAL bill would put the finishing stroke to the discredit of republican institutions. We do not believe, theretore, that in the teeth of loud popular remonstrance any such impost will be created by the Chamber of Deputies But if this fiscal nostrum is rejected, the FLOQUET Cabinet must fall. Then M. CLE-MENCEAU and M. FERRY will be left to fight it out together during the brief remnant of the present Chamber's existence, after which -chaos or BOULANGER perhaps.

#### Mr. Blaine and Zachary Taylor's Daughter.

In the North American Review, Gen. SHER-MAN tells an interesting story about the way in which he secured a pension for Gen. ZACHARY TAYLOR'S daughter, the widow of Assistant Surgeon-General Wood of the United States army. At least three men of national reputation appear in this narrative, all of them in very characteristic attitudes. During GRANT'S second term, when Mr BLAINE was Speaker of the House, Mrs. Wood went to Washington destitute and applied to Gen. SHERMAN for a long of \$1,000 to enable her to reach a sick daughter in Austria. "I had not the money," says Gen. SHERMAN. After a few moments thought, he said: "Mrs. Wood, we must get a special pension bill, putting your name on the same list with of Mrs. Gen. Worth, Mrs. Gen. SUMNER and others, and have this special pension date back from your husband's death. What member of Congress do you know?" Mrs. Wood replied that she did not know a single member. "Don't you know Mr. BLAINE?" demanded Gen. SHERMAN. "He is the Speaker of the House a fellow of infinite wit and bound less generosity." Mrs. Woop did not know Mr. BLAINE, and Gen. SHERMAN tock her to the Capitol and called the Speaker from the chair.

"No courtier since the days of CHARLE MAGNE," continues Gen. SHERMAN, "ever approached a lady with more delicacy and grace than did Mr. Speaker BLAINE the afflieted daughter of Gen. ZACHARY TAYLOR.' After a few words of inquiry as to the case Mr. BLAINE exclaimed: "Great GoD! has it come to this that the daughter of ZACHARY TAYLOR should be here knocking at the doors of Congress for the pitiful pension of \$50 a month? I will do all a man can in this complicated Government. I will make your ease my own."

Finding that he had "touched the proper chord of Mr. BLAINE's generous nature," the worthy General of the Army left the case in the Speaker's hands. Mr. BLAINE "walked straight to Mr. HOLMAN, the Universal Obfector" and said to him: "HOLMAN, I have a little matter of great interest which I want to rush through; please don't object." What is it?" asked HOLMAN. "A special ension for the widow of Surgeon Wood, the daughter of Gen. ZACHARY TAYLOR." "Is it all right?" demanded the Great Objector. "Of course it is all right, and every American should blush that this thing could be." Well," said HOLMAN, "go ahead; I'll be out

of the way, in the cloak room." The pension was then put through without difficulty, and Mrs. Wood's necessities were relieved at the expense of the national Government. The narrative of Gen. SHERMAN closes with a delightfully naive remark. He says nothing about his own charitable act in steering the applicant to the Speaker. He says nothing about HoL-MAN, who charitably secluded himself in the cloak room. He says nothing about the United States Treasury; but Gen. SHERMAN does remark that Brother BLAINE made one of his most eloquent and beautiful speeches in behalf of the bill," and that he, the General considers it as a duty "to rescue from oblivion the memory of this pure act of unrecorded benevolence."

The Competition of Whites and Negroes According to their spokesman at Chickering Hall, the colored people are suffering practically from the discrimination against

their race which now is made in New York. He says that, under all circumstances. they do their best to put on the appearance of prosperity, but that, in fact, they are steadily falling behind in the competition with the white race. "Fashion is doing away with the colored coachman, the colored barber has disappeared from New York, the Englishman wears the waiter's apron in the hotel dining rooms, the Irishman has seized the whitewash brush, and the almondeyed Mongolian peeps over the washtub

where once the darky's face was seen." This is undoubtedly true. In the days when DICKENS and THACKERAY visited the United States they were struck by the novelty of encountering everywhere negro servants. In all hotels and restaurants the watters were colored men, and the few coachmen employed by private families were

Now the negro waiter is the exception, and asgro coachmen are no longer common. The colored whitewasher survives almost wholly in the imagination of negro minstreley, and the colored barber is becoming rapidly an historic functionary in New York. Their places have been taken by Irishmen, Englishmen, Swiss, Germans, and Italians, while the Chinamen have secured what is a substantial monopoly of the laundry business. few as they are in numbers actually and comparatively to the negroes.

But the change cannot have been brought about by capricious fashion, as the colored preacher at Chickering Hall supposes. It must mean that the negro has been beaten in the competition with the white man; that he does not do so good work. Under slavery he was protected from competition with oth ers not of his race, but under freedom he must take his chances with the rest; and the rest have become very many in this country since the days when he held a sub
"Et. Western-You's get a big appetite might fir. Western-You's get a big appetite first western and a sub
"Et. Western-You's new or a borden tea,

stantial monopoly of the employments spoken of by the colored preacher. The col-ored people must devote themselves with redoubled effort to their own improvement if

hey would keep up in the contes In the old slave days some of the most admirable servants possible were colored, and possibly for a time those who maintained heir prestige in the North were relies, direct or indirect, of that bygone time. Now that those old traditions have worn out. the negro of to-day must start afresh and equip himself with the learning and qualities which are required of others if he wants to succeed. Skill and trustworthinese are the two indispensable qualifications for occupation of all sorts, and those must be attained and cultivated in the first degree if he would stand the competition that is constantly being made keener and brought to a higher standard of required excellence

To-day a mass convention of the pioneers of North Dakota is to be opened in the brisk and busy settlement of Jamestown. Its object is to prepare for the holding of a Constitutional Convention and to take steps for hastening the Union. The North Dakotians claim that they have a sufficiency of population to entitle them to Statchood, and that they are ready to fulfil all the duties required of a State. They believe that their interests would be greatly promoted by a State government, and that their subordinate political position is detrimental to them in various ways. There certainly has been a heavy growth of population there within the past few years, and the development of the productive resources of the region has kept

It is probable that another project will be taken up by to-day's assemblage. It looks toward the holding of an Inter-Territorial Convention of delegates from the two Dakotas, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Wyoming, and Utah, for the purpose of making a united demand upon Congress for the admission of all these Territories as States. Well, if each of them has the prescribed population, all of them ought to be admitted. There is a notion current in some of them that the Democrats will take ground against this; but we are sure that the Democratic party will not oppose the admission of any one among them that can show t is entitled by law to a State government.

If the Hon. JOHN R. McPherson of New Jersey had taken the same attitude toward the MILLS bill before the election that he seems inelined to take now the Democratic party certainly would have been no worse off.

Our northernmost and southernmost Territories, Alaska and Arizona, are growing but slowly, unlike other parts of our Western domain, and they are the only Territories that do not claim to be entitled to admission as States of the Union. The Secretary of the Inpopulation of Alaska, which is found to be under 50,000, only about one-eighth of whom are whites, while \$5,000 are classed as "uncivilsize have sprung up in Alaska since we purchased it from Russia, twenty-one years ago. Yet there are good farming lands in Alaska: there are fishing and hunting grounds for sportsmen; the interior is well wooded; there is in some regions a growth of rich perennial grasses that are excellent fodder for cattle. there are coal and mineral deposits, and the climate in various parts of the country is not, at all intolerable. We suppose that in course of time, when the more inviting Territories of the far West are thickly populated, the attractions of Alaska will be better realized than they have yet been, and immigrants will wend their way to its volcanie shores. As for Arizona, in the south, its slow growth is hard to account for, but it may be presumed that its time will yet come.

### A Dissatisfied Novel Writer.

A brief and rather laudatory notice of a novel by Mr. Edgar Fawcett, entitled " Divided Lives," recently appeared in THE SUN, the concluding sentence reading as follows: "It is to be regretted that so capable a writer should occasionally express himself in shod, ungrammatical English." Had Mr. Fawcett quietly accepted the advice implied in this passage, and determined to improve both his style and his grammar, the public would undoubtedly have been the gainers. But he has chosen another course. In two letters of a somewhat belligerent character he treats our kindly suggestion in an unfriendly and unworthy spirit. The first of these was mislaid. and its contents were not known to us until after the second had been received

Union Cles.
TWENTY-FIRST STREET AND FIFTH AVENUE, Nov. 25. Siz: You will perhaps be good enough to point out to me three instances of the "slipshod and ungrammatical English" which you state that I employ in my novel. "Divided Lives." This note is addressed to you quite as a private individual, since I naturally have no wish that a private individual, since a natural more publicly in print.

I am awaiting your kind reply. Very truly.

E. FAWCETT.

#### From the second letter, dated Dec. 2, we quote the following passages:

Bin: I have walted a week after writing you a per fectly polite request for three specimens of my "un grammatical" English in the novel "Divided Lives. I did not suppose that you would answer my communi-cation, or, indeed, that you could answer it. You statement merely represented a new phase of that indo-lent siander into which the newspaper critic of our town and time too often lets himself drop. But. after all, I cannet whelly regret your behavior, for you may be aware that I have already written more than once on the subject of just such unworthy stewardship as that which you have shown, and in future work of the same character I shall be enabled to use this whole shabby little episode as fresh corroborative material.

While we cannot commend these communications as specimens of pure or elegant English we are quite willing that Mr. Fawcett should use "this whole shabby little episode "-what ever that may mean—" as fresh corroborative material," provided he will also print the examples of his bad grammar and slovenly style which we berewith present. They are taken at random from his book, and might be greatly increased in number.

He asks for three examples of bad grammar. but we give him more than three: Without the least omen to have warned her of its approach she found herself confronted by a severe

emptation.—Page 21. Hubert had asked O'Hara not to let a word of the club house quarrel to transcire.—Page 191. So suddenly did this event make itself and its trenchant significance felt to her.—Page 21.

A beauty which even the untimes of New York at its most metropolitan hideous failed quite to dispei.—

Fage 48.
Full of that peace, dream, and tender surprise which marks our belated American spring.—Page 7.
Then she would laugh with soorn of such an influence.

She was fearful lest affairs at home were seriously inbarrassed.-Page 13. As evidences of an inelegant, slipshod, or obscure style, which every writer of modern English should avoid, we quote the following

She rarely saw him without he had on a pair of neat The spring sky had got a translucent, daffodil color.-

Page 7.

He frequented circles where caste throve at a degree of the hardlest insolence.—Page 15.

Half-rageful tearx.—Page 22.

No friendly editors existed on those (newspapers) whom Hubert could control.-Page 102. The lady on his other side was being voluble. Page 64.
They were eyes that could flood their night-black pupils with a rich and gentle spiender, and one whose

A short time only was required to detect these slips in Mr. Fawcett's style. A closer search would unquestionably discover enough more to damn a story not fortified by an ingenious and aktifully developed plot. When this gentleman undertakes again to criticise his critics we counsel him to avoid an exhibi tion of bad temper and stily self-esteem.

sorceries found few men so callous as Hubert.—Page 10.

Better Then Bitters.

WOMAN AS A CUSTOMER. Queer Features of the Dry Goods Trade in this Town,

New York, Nov. 29.—It was in one of the largest of the ladies' shopping stores, and a bundle had just been brought in by a wagon driver. "From Mrs. Clermont," said the driver, "Ah," said one of the proprietors who was standing near. "that is a queer thing. That is a very expensive opera cloak that one of our customers asked to have sent to her home and left over night, in order, she said, that her husband might decide upon whether she might buy it or not. I supposed at the time that she probably had a dressmaker at her home employed to copy the cut and trimming of the cloak, in order to make up one like it of less costly material. I knew she could never afford to buy that cloak, and so I naturally supposed she meant to do as I say. But I was wrong. She got the cloak to use at the opera last night. It was the opening night, as I afterward saw by the papers, and when I dropped in she was the first and most con-nicuous lady I saw, on the way to a seat in the box of some rich relatives she has up town. She was wearing that cloak, and I suppose has managed to have it described for one of the society papers. At these first nights, you know, the names and the costumes of the ladies are nearly always published."

What are you going to do about it?"

"Do about it?" said the merchant: "why, thank fortune that she comes here to borrow fineres listend of going to other stores to get NEW YORK, Nov. 29 .- It was in one of the

"What are you going to do about it?"

"Do about it?" said the merchant: "why, thank fortune that she comes here to borrow flueries instead of going to other stores to get accommodation. I see that there are things about this ladies' shopping trade of ours that you do not know. Let me explain them. You see, we have two kinds of customers—cash and credit. For the cash customers we take no risks and grant no favors. For the credit customers we do almost any and every thing they ask of us. We are glad to get them, and make every effort to swell their number, some houses take note of whore purchases are sent, and, whenever a fashionable address appears on their shipping books, write the lady at that address offering to put her name on the credit list. Other houses, like ours, dislike to force that trade, and simply wait until such a lady asks a favor of a day's or a week's accommodation to pay for a heavy purchase, or else comes and asks in plain terms to be allowed to run a bill here. Then, though she does not know how eager we are, we jump to accommodate her."

how eager we are, we jump to accommodate her." Why?"

"Mercy! what a greeny you are. Because a lady who has a bill at our store spends all the way from 50 per cent, to 500 per cent, more than if she hadn't. Not only does she buy everything she wants at this store where she has a bill, pussing all the rest every day, but she buys things she does not always want and cannot always afford. You need not laugh: men do the same thing. We are glad to get men to run bills here as well as women. It was only yesterday that a gentleman told me that he never had been thoroughly well dressed until we let him run an account with us. He used to hate to part with money for things he could possibly do without, but now he has dressing gowns, pajamas, silk hose, scarfs a bleuty, and the Lori knows what not. He says that when he gets our bill once a quarter he is always pushed into doing some extra piece of work—he is an artist—in order to get extra money to meet this expense. He is different from most men, because he says this spending money causes him to make money, since he is driven to earn a great deal more than he spends each time our bill comes in. But the ladles can't do that, you say. No, they simply fight it out or coax it out of their husbands."

The merchant went on to say that the ladles impose upon the storekeepers to an amazing extent, but that this is well understood, and is not objected to. "For instance, if the lady who wore the rich clook to the opera had said that this was what she intended to do with it she could still have had it, because her custom is very valuable, and now goesentirely to the one shop that gives her credit. Had she taken the cloak home to have it copied by a dressmaker, as is done with cloaks and gowns and ulsters and even with under linen every day, it would still be best for the store to let her do it, since when she copies the garments, in order to get them cheaner, she will buy the goods of which to make them at the store that grants favors to her."

Here is a curious phase of commercial life, The women who fancy they decaye the

to ber."

Here is a curious phase of commercial life, The women who fancy they deceive the shop-keepers are actually known to have dresses sent home in order to wear them to a photogranber's. They are known to borrow hats, artificial flowers, or feathers for use at a party, or for decorating their own parlors when they give a party. They order portières, bric-à-brac, pictures, everything that can be imagined, for use at home on special occasions, always saying that they want to get their husband's oninions or consent before purchasing. They have suits sent home to try on their children, as they say, but in reality to dress their children for Sunday school exhibitions, or whatever they want them to appear at their best in. They actually borrow dresses to be married in Stranger yet, it seems to me, is the fact that this is recognized and countenanced by the men whom the women thick they are tricking. It is simply charged to wear and tear and profit and loss, and no charge is made unless serious damage is done to the borrowed articles. Even then, if the annual bill for a year of a woman who did the damage should be seen to be a considerable one, it is much more than likely that her attention would not be called to the damage done, lest the customer take offence and carry her trade to a rival store.

Not a Women's Administration.

## Not a Women's Administration.

From the Chicago Tribune. The women, especially the women in the departments, are glad Cleveland is going out and Harrison is coming in. Cleveland has never looked with much faver on the employment of women in the departments. He has not lifted his hand against them, of course, but in some manner the word has been passed, and argonalized or a superimental of women has in some manner the word has been passed, and promotions or appointments of women have been few and far between. This is true more especially of the departments over which Vilas has presided. He once said be "had no use for women," meaning, of course, women in Government employ; and there isn't a woman in Uncle Sam's service who will be sorry to see him go. President-elect Harrison, on the other hand, is a "woman's man" in that he favors the employment of women in the departments, and while Senator secured places for a good many. All the women cierks in Washington will dance at his inaugural ball,

## the Case.

To the Epiton of The Sun-Sir: The publication in your columns to-day of a report of the proceedings of the Board of Education yesterday con-taining statements affecting myself merits notice at my hands in one respect only, and in that regard I wish to say most emphatically and indignantly that no charge of immorality has been made against me, directly or indirectly. The only charge made concerning me as a school trustee of the Ninth ward is that in a private conversation i used language desired objectionable.

The language critical was jouding and was so understood by those to whom it was addressed. The whole subject is activities and, rideculous that ido not yet believe that a public Board, will give it serious consideration, norshould it any way notice it serious consideration, norshould it any way notice it save to deny the absolutely takes statement that any charge involving any sort of immorality has been made against me.

Edward M. L. Energy, say most emphatically and indignantly that no charge

Reveries of a Fly Philosopher. From the Boston Courier. POETRY.

The season is finally o'er
For base ball and tennis, and such,
And the base ball reporter's no more
The boss of the odice; not much!

In base ball he may steal who can A base, the action no diagrace is: Though base is stealing, yet no man Need be asharsed of stealing bases.

Nor in the choir is't a disgrace Or any kind of misdemeanor Considered even when the bass Steals the soprano from the tenor.

The maid I admired in the summer by the sea. In a seven-story hat sits now in front of me. But I do not admire ber helf as much in that As I did by the sea in her Tam O'chanter hat. The gamin used to speak with turned up nose of Sunday school; a puril would not be; But now seed Sunday there be gladly goes; The fruit will soon be on the Christmas tree.

The beautiful belle of the beach no more Displays her limbs on the white sea shore; The other end of her charms at the operay Doth the beautiful maiden now display.

Though cold's before us.
And the song bird's chorus
Is beard on more in the leafess grove,
And the sameline coy is.
The nights are joyous.
When we sit with our girl near the parlor stove. PROSE,

Patient—What is the best position in which to steep! Doctor—I usually lie down. The ballet was on, when some one in a rear seat shouted:
"Down in front!"
"There is no down in front," answered a voice, "nor
a hair neither. They're all bald." Time never flies so fast as when you are playing bil-liards by the hour. The tights of the variety actress are not half so expen-tive as those of the periodical drankard.

Talk is chean but not the affectionate talk of a protty girl: that is dear. The letter that always goes-Let'er go, Gallagher! How to be happy, though married—Let your wife do all the talking. Thanksgiving turkey! The turkey has little cause for thanksgiving about this time.

The sonundrum of the hour is. "Is marriage a failure ?" doubtful State. When the picyclist has succeeded in paying off the last fastsliment on his machine, he can as he skins along the rural issue section in the famous words of Monta Cristo: \* The whitefalls mine!\*

INTERESTING GOSSIP OF THE DAY.

"W. J. Florence, or, as he is more popularly known, BMIS' Florence," said a book publisher yesterday, "has just issued a volume called "Florence's Fables" which I think will have rather a sain. He is one of the few actors, you know, who really write the stuff that appears ever their names. In a great many instances the sileged productions are bought for so much from tituerant scribblers and signed by the sctors. Perhaps sometimes the articles are good, but usually they are very had. One of the most amusing cases was that of Curties, the 'Bam'i of Posen' actor, who was asked to contribute to the Christmas number of a dramatic paper. He sent in a beautiful article, which was read with great satisfaction by the people in the office, and it was finally published as an original contribution from Mr. Curties. It turned out to be one of the best of Bret Harte's stories, which had been literally cepted by a newspaper writer for Curtisa. The actor paid the new-paper man \$50 for the story, but he did not receive much sympathy, despite the fact that he was swindled."

Mr. Marshall Halstead, who is well known here as the New York correspondent of his father's newspaper, the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette, has been appointed act-ing managing editor of that newspaper. His brother Consul General E. B. Bassett, Hayti's representative

in this city, who, rumor says, has been officially remove from his official position by the present provision government of the little republic, is a native of Con meg State. His ancestry have long been connected with the governmental service of Hayti. Mr. Bassett was born in Litchfield county, not far from the home of Wm. H. Barnum. He resides with his family in New Haven because of the social and educational advan tages afforded to his family there. His oldest son is a student of Vale. Mr. Bassett has represented Hayti in this country since 1878. Before that he was for nine years American Consul to Hayti, living at Port-au-Prince. His consulate is one of the busiest in New York. The Consul-General is a genial, middle-aged man, a great card player, and a delightful after-dinner con-versationalist. He said yesterday that he was not werried over his prospective dismissal. He had done his duty, and that was all he could do. If he is removed from his post it is probable he will go to Hayti to spend the rest of his days, after matters have become settled there. Mr. Bassett thinks there is really no country to live in compared with lisytl. With all her faults he loves her still. The climate is, he says, like going into a furnace to a visitor, but if the visitor allows himself to remain a year he is pretty apt to become so infatuate tropic belt that he finally pitches his tent there for cood It is just as true that a beggar may ask a millionaire king. The etiquette among smokers is the most deme eratic known to man. Perfect equality reigns among s sure of a gracious answer, "Give me a light, please! and "Cau you tell me the time!" You see a pompous

the avenue and then growl at a newsboy, but when a tramp asks him for a light he stops like a soldier at the sound of "Halt!" and hands over his cigar. Persons who go to the seaside only in summer do not know what old ocean is in winter. At Asbury Park and Ocean Grove last night the beach sparkled with the lancing yellow light of many lanterns. The frost fial had made their appearance on Saturday night, and the sport and profit of gathering them is under way. These fish are like smelts, but a little larger. They are thrown or leap ashore at high tide on frosty nights. They are caught with the hands or newer rakes and make delicious eating. During every fierce storm the people go to the beach to see the fury of the waves, and after every such storm they go again to gather the huge sea clams and sea crabs, the stardsh, and the queer shells that at such times the ocean disgorges.

globe-waistcoated old club man brush aside a beggar of

Phil Daly, the gambler, who got his great start in life by winning \$100,000 on Grover Cleveland's election in 18-4, is said to have bet the same way this year, though he settled his bets with a loss of only about \$12,000. I s said that in the four years just past he has increase all, that neither drink, smoke, nor chew.

Such a day as yesterday brings the Street Cleaning rests that such a thing as a broom is unknown in New fork. Pedestrians along the Bowery, Broadway, and Fifth avenue returned to their homes after walking the streets literally covered with dust, and everythin hat the hand or the glove touched, from a door handle to a street car seat, was coated thickly with dust. A the wind swirled it blew clouds of dust in the air un

An artist in the Studio building says that if Verestscha gin, the Russian painter, immediately after landing at our decks, is to stand up in public as a severe critic American pictures, some American painter ought to b the subject in a reply to him. It is not admitted by the members of the American Academy of Design that Verestschagin has suddenly become sufficiently familia-with the broad and varied fields of American art to justify him in making the aweeping criticisms in which he has already indulged. "Let William H. Beard be heard on the spet!" "Give the Academy a chance to pick out a man to answer him." "Our American nate ers are quite too modest by nine-tenths when attacked."
So go the remarks in art circles. But it is probable that the famous Russian wielder of the brush would not be desirous of taking part in a debate of the kind proposed.

A dowager of this city, who ought to know what she among the members of the fair sex in fashionable soci ety. She declares that she has frequently seen the in-cense arising from groups of them, and also in the pri-vacy of the household. She says that cigarettes are mostly favored, but that some of them go so far as to indulge in cigars. According to her account, there are married indies who have fallen into the habit through the example of their husbands, who are aware of the fact. In truth, it cannot be easy for any lady who smokes to conseal the offence from those who enjoy familiar intercourse with her, for the fumes of the weed penetrate the garments and hover around the bodies of all who use it, and are easily detected by any one who has an acute sense of smell. In several of the comof Europe smeking is often practised by women of the poorer classes, and in Turkey many of the ladies smoke in their divana. But we think that few goutlemen in the United States will confirm the assertions made by a dowager of this city about the use of tobacco by Ameri-

Any man who is so unfortunate as to have acquaint ances among sporting men or professional athletes is to te pitled nowadays. Every broken-down athlete, queer trainer, and ruined sport has a hungry and longing eye pon the small fortune that Littlewood raked in by the simple and commonplace exercise of walking around tarters in the next six days' race.

Philip Daly does not look his age by ten years. He is groad, heavy, and solid in appearance, and his manne is exceedingly quiet, not to say shrinking. He seldom suilles, and hals so accustomed to being quoted by men of all sorts in and out of his place that his manner is not exactly cordial. It is safe to say that nine people out of ten would not pick him out as the sort of a man to play

Not all of the elevated gatemen are the monsters that reaches South Ferry at 2:10 A. M. is one of these, and were there ten men like him the reputation of the elevated trainmen might be better. On his train many newsmen and late workers go down town, and most of them ride in the front car. There they go calmly to sleep, secure in the thought that they will not slumber past their station. At Canal street this big conductor walks into the first car and wakes all the sleeping men. The habitues wake up instantly, and nod to the kind eld man; the strangers, confused at first pull themselves together and thank him; the drunken man that invariably rides on the early morning trains wants to first at together and thank him, the drunken man that invariably rides on the early morning trains wants to fight at first, and then wants to embrace the conductor. But the same hand that woke him so gently but forcibly prevents any demonstration on his part, and at Chatham equare every man leaves the car, and the big smiling Irishman shuts his gates with a siam and goes on in solitude to Bouth Ferry. solitude to Bouth Ferry.

At about 5 o'clock yesterday seven large broad-abouldered and small-waisted women paraded up and down Broadway in a group. They all wore red cleaks, which fitted their Amazonian figures snugly, and people stopped and stared at them as they passed. They looked exactly what they were, English chorus girls. The sim-ilarity in the matter of cleaks and turbans gave a de-cleddly. Thesterical

ilarity in the matter of cloaks and turbans gave a de-cidedity theatrical air to the little company, and they started a deal of talk in the course of their parade.

"There is a good deal of nonsense written about the Galety company," said a theatrical agent who steed on the corner of Twenty seventh street and whose experi-tence in the business has been ample. "They lead very quiet lives. You can go into a cheap restaurant next to the Standard Theatre any day at noon and see them all sating accomplish." the standard meatr any any at most and see them all eating sponomical meats there. Their attire is cheap, though gaudy, and their lodgings in every case inexpen-sive and economical. They drink ale and berr. The stories about champagne, orsters, private suppers, swells, and all that, are what would be described in the choice idioms of Regent street as 'all Tummy rok,
y' know.' The English chorus girls are not in the swim
yet. The American chorus girls in a creature about nine
ices feet high compared to her English sister. She live

A Paralyzing Effect.

"John," said his wife in the middle of the night, as she awakened with her usual scars, "I'm quite sure there's a man under the bed." "Is that so !" respected John sleepity. "well shows one of your shoes at him and scare him away."

OUR GREATEST CITY FOR FRENCH

Home of Lyrie Art.

Heme of Lyric Art.

From the Times Democrat.

For more than two generations, in antebellum days, the French opera was the price and delight of New Oriesna, as it was the main attraction for the host of visitors from all points who made our city their annual fail and winter resort. There was no such completely equipped and thoroughly well organized lyric theatre of prominence anywhere in the United States—nay. In the whole continent. The standard works of the old composers, as well as those freshly produced in the great European musical centres, were performed season after season in such a masterly style as to elleit from such maestri as Rossini. Meyerbeer, and Auber letters of warm praise to those enterprising and skilful managers, our fellow townsmen. Messra, Davis and Joudousquie.

The terrible civil war prostrated art—that fine flower of peace, prosperity, and happiness—everywhere in this broad land. But hardly had the armies on either side returned to their homes when our French Opera House once more opened its portals.

But the unique, very prosperous, and longentinued conditions of its former history were now woully changed. The perfect orchestra and the excellent chorus, the growth of years of practice, under the leadership of Prevost, unexcelled in that difficult and all-important position, were broken up. Many of the wealthest and faithful operatic patrons were dead; most of the others struggling with adverse fortune. The old managers had year after year confidently relied upon this large and steady cohort of local friends for assured support. Our operatic public of to-day, it is hardly necessary to say, differs in many important respects from that we have described.

M. Mange has this season given us a troupe that must content all but the hypererities. With two excellent first tenors, three as excellent prima donnas, two line barritones (himself one of them), and a basso of superior merit, he can honestly claim the reward of a just ambition to succeed, and the praise of a seasons electron work of the From the Times-Demo

A GREAT INDUSTRY REVIYED. The Internal Marine Beginning to Work and Boom Again. From the Buffulo Courier

The growth of the traffic on the great lakes within the past three years has been astonishing. About the middle of the season of 1856 the trade began brightening up. A brisk demand for carriers of grain, ore, lumber, and coal set in, after a rather dull and unpromising opening, and freights advanced steadily to the end of the season, closing with a positive boom. This led to the construction of nearly fifty large vessels for the season of 1857. They were nearly all steamers of the better class and improved construction, and with an average capacity of 2,000 tons.

The season just ending has seen the addition to the lake fleet of no less than sixty-nine large vessels, the average carrying capacity of which is over 2,000 tons. Lake freights were somewhat lower this year than during the latter part of 1857, but every boat affect had all the work she could well care for, and at profitable figures too. So much for the past.

Already there are under contract, to go into commission next season, fifty-nine vessels, of which fifty are to go into the carrying trade. These also will average about 2,000 tons especity.

Again comes forward the weak-hearted and

which hity are to go into the carrying trade, These also will average about 2,000 tons capacity.

Again comes forward the weak-hearted and asserts that this thing is being overdone, that the business cannot increase with this rapid growth in tonnage, and that vessel owners will make little, if any, money next year.

It is already certain that there will be a much improved demand for iron ore; an immense corn crop is to be moved eastward, and prices will be so low that the grain is bound to go; the request for lumber is enlarging every year, and the western country is fast increasing its consumption of coal, which is chiefly supplied by lake: the upward and downward movements of package freight, or merchandise, are also growing rapidly. So it would not be surprising if the lake season of 1889 abould szain amply repay owners of floating property for their investments. This lake traffic is simply wonderful, and is yet in its infancy.

### SUNBEAMS.

-There is a German newspaper published at Jerusalem, and it says that the city is growing in size and population at a remarkable rate, which is sur-prising, because heither its situation nor its trade is favorable to a rapid ingrease. The Jews take the lead in building, followed by the Russians and Germans. The Greeks and Armenians are also busy building cafes.

-In Weilington, New Zealand, a diver who —in wellington, New Zeelland, a diver who had gone down some thirty feet to place some blocks for a pier foundation, was attacked by a devil fish that succeeded in fastening on him, and, in spite of all his struggles, pinned him to one of the piles of a retaining wall. The divar, however, had the good sense to remain quiet, and the devil fish, whose arms measured quite nine feet, quitting his hold of the pile, was brought to the surface on the lack of the divar and killed. The the surface on the back of the diver and killed. These consters are reported to be very numerous in Weiling

-Society in Kansas City is all broken up ecause Miss Kitty Everest, daughter of a leading and wealthy lawyer, has made a runaway match with a aughter on an extended European trip, and offered her one hundred thousand dollars in cash if she would give up the drummer. But the girl declared that not even one million dollars would sempt her to do so, or would prevent her from marrying the man of her choice. Then the father forbade the drummer to enter the house

-A curious problem was presented to Pittaburgh and Allegheny City when the use of natural gas became general in the two cities. It had been the cit-tom of the heassholders to dispose of the most of the garbage and refuse by burning it in the kitchen range. The use of fuel gas at once prohibited this. Not a wisp of nor a single match wick can be toned into a gas grate or range, much less even the smellest portion of vege-table matter. To meet this emergency a Garbage and Befuse Cremation Company was established, and a crematory built. The company has its caris which make rounts regularly, and householders who pay for the privilege, have their refuse cans as regularly in waiting. Their contents are conveyed to the huge fur

-A Boston man recently home from Europe has given to the Trusscript some memoranda of English as she is wrete on the Continent. In a hotel at Vienna was this notice: "Dejenners, diners, supers, und a la carté un jeder Tagesselt, à toutes heures, ever time." Over a money changer's office in Saisburg: "Buying and sale of all sorts of Inlandish and outland ish moneys here." Advertisements in a German paper: "First-class pension; pleasant home; decent prices." "Totlet articles recommends chespest in best qualities." In a catalogue of a picture gallery in Venice was this in-formation: "In the dome, St. Roeb conducting into the formation: "In the dome, St. Roob conducting into the Charity's presence a person recogniting the fraternity of St. Roch. The door of second floor is adorned with tion of cinige facts of the history of Old Testament. In the cealing. The following pictures by Tintoret: In the middle, the sin our fathers: on every side, three kinds in the oven of Babylony. In the middle, the sacrifice of Abrahm: on every side. Daniel in the trench of the lion. Eliseus dispansing brods. The wood carvings are by anonymous. On the right hand we see, The resus-rection of Lazaro. Multiplication of brods and fishs. In the middle, Moise who spring the water on every side, the ardent wood, the luminous column in the desert." In a museum at Anwers he found the size. desert." In a museum at Antwerp he found this sign: "Difense de toucher; don't tenching;" and ever a restau-rant in the same city this: "Koffy, etcn, beefstucken, English launching house."

# The Beason Why.

"How is it, young man." he said, "that you can make three thousand deliars a year playing base ball, while L a college professor, can only make two thintmand?"
"Well I don't know, sir." was the reply. "I succe a man's intelligence generally governs such matters."

The Signs Were There. Ho (at a church wedding)—How haughtily the bride carries herself as she walks up the aims! She—Yes, and do you notice the expression on the groom's face as he stands waiting for her? A proof, smoot stern look he has. He—Ferhaps they have already had a quarrel.

"You have gone too far. John Smith," said Mrs. John Smith, tapping the parlor floor. "You have freated me outrageously."

"What will you do " sneered the callous husband.
"I shall tell mother as soon as she comes home.
The wretched man bowed his head in his hande and murmured: "Got both feet in this time."

Customer (to Mr. Isaaestein)-The cut of

hat suit isn't very fashionable, Issaestein. Isaucstein-Va-at, not fashionable | don'd I keep an

isanceicin—Vaul. not fashionable | don'd I keep an agent mid Europe ulme months soud of dot year choos: to hick und done front styles. The fashion of the fa